

**CITIZENS
FOR
CALIFORNIA
REFORM**

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INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

September 11, 2009

Initiative Coordinator
Office of the Attorney General
State of California
PO Box 994255
Sacramento, CA 94244-25550

Re: Request for Title and Summary for Proposed Initiative

Dear Ms. Paris:

Pursuant to Article II, Section 10(d) of the California Constitution, I am submitting the attached proposed statewide ballot measure titled, "Citizen Legislature Act" to your office and request that you prepare a title and summary of the measure as provided by law. I have also included with this letter the required signed statement pursuant to California Elections Code section 9608, and a check in the amount of \$200. My address as registered to vote is shown on Attachment 'A' to this letter.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Elizabeth Hansell, 925 University Ave, Sacramento, CA 95825; 916-648-1222.

Very Truly Yours,

Gabriella Holt, President/CEO
Citizens for California Reform

THE CITIZEN LEGISLATURE ACT -VERSION C**SECTION 1. Title.**

This Act shall be known and may be cited as "The Citizen Legislature Act."

SECTION 2. Findings and Purposes.

The People of the State of California hereby make the following findings and declare that their purpose in enacting this Act is as follows:

(a) California's experiment with a "full-time" Legislature has failed. The result has been a Legislature dominated by career politicians beholden to special interests. Legislators do not work "full-time" yet they receive full-time pay and benefits, more than double the amount of all other states. Yet, with all of these incentives, they continually fail to accomplish their most important job, passing a balanced state budget on-time.

(b) California needs and deserves a Legislature that is only interested in conducting the people's business. Most states have a part-time Legislature, including some of the largest and most populous. A part-time Legislature will replace professional politicians with citizen legislators and will break the stranglehold of special interests. It will reduce the number of unnecessary and self-serving bills and will result in a more responsible and accountable government institution.

(c) In order to further these and the purposes stated in section 1.5, the people hereby amend the California Constitution to enact the "Citizen Legislature Act."

SECTION 3. Constitutional Amendment

Section 3.5 of Article IV of the California Constitution is added to read as follows:

Sec. 3.5(a) The Legislature shall reconvene in regular session on the first Monday in January of each year for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days, whereupon the Legislature shall stand in recess. The Legislature shall reconvene in regular session on the first Monday in May for a period not to exceed 60 calendar days.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the Legislature may reconvene for an additional period of 5 days following recess or adjournment to reconsider bills vetoed by the Governor pursuant to section 10.

(c) On or before the end of the fiscal year 2012, the California Citizens Compensation Commission shall, pursuant to section 8 of Article III, reduce the annual salary of Members of the Legislature by at least fifty percent of the salary established for the fiscal year in which this section becomes effective. Thereafter, the Commission may increase the annual salary of Members of the Legislature to account for any increase in the cost of living, and may reduce such salary at its discretion, pursuant to section 8 of Article III.

SECTION 4. Operative Date/Severability

(a) Section 3.5 shall become effective immediately, however it shall become operative for the biennium session commencing on the first Monday in December in 2012.

(b) If any part of this measure or the application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications which can reasonably be given effect without the invalid provision or application.